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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bridge Deck repair project scheduled for U.S. 2 near Davenport

A bridge repair project will be underway on US 2 near Davenport this Spring. Crews from the N.A. Degerstrom Company of Spokane will perform deck rehabilitation work on the railroad bridge just to the east of the City of Davenport. The \$175,000 project includes removal of a portion of the existing bridge deck, performing the necessary repairs, then resurfacing the existing concrete deck. The project also includes minor signing and striping activities. Work is currently scheduled to start around mid-April, but weather conditions could delay the project start.

The concrete deck of this bridge, built in 1958, has deteriorated due to 44 years of vehicle traffic. Repairing and resurfacing the deck will extend the service life of the structure and ensure safety for the traveling public.

Because of the materials used to resurface the bridge deck, the planned work is extremely weather sensitive. Humidity, wind velocity, and air temperature have to be within acceptable levels to achieve success and a quality product.

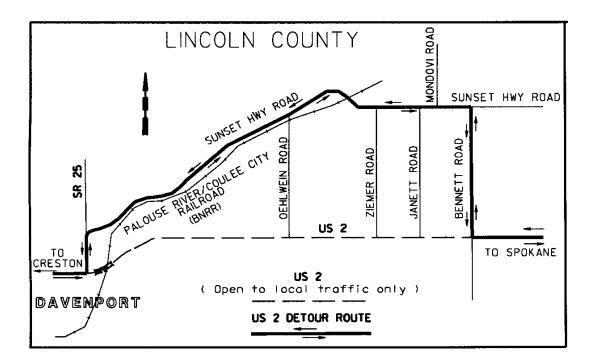
US 2 will remain closed during this project, for up to 20 days, to facilitate construction and ensure safety for workers and the public. Closing the highway will also shorten the duration of this project, which in turn reduces the cost to all parties.

(More)

2-2-2-2 February 27, 2003 US 2 Bridge Rehab

Traffic will be directed to a detour route along Bennett Road, Sunset Highway Road and a very short portion of SR 25, allowing drivers to bypass the construction zone. WSDOT and the Degerstrom Company anticipate making every effort to achieve, and if possible, reduce the 20-day highway closure period in this project.

The detour route will add about one mile, (and about four minutes), to the trip between Reardan and Davenport. The route is fully paved with 12-foot wide lanes, two-foot shoulders and a speed limit of 50 mph.



On the map, "local traffic" is defined as those motorists who reside, or are traveling to reach a destination, along the US 2 between Bennett Road and the work site. Through traffic on US 2 must use the detour route.